

Established 1987

Sharing Space, Growing Community

Driving back through the Santa Clara Valley sunset back home to Silicon Valley after visiting Mound Lodge #166 last fall, Mountain View Lodge #244 **Noble Grand (Michael Greenzeiger)** and **Vice Grand (Jessica Dickinson Goodman)** brainstormed about how best to use the lodge space to fulfill our values of friendship, love, and truth; to benefit the community; and to grow membership. The lodge had been hosting the newly renamed Odd Writer's League since 2015, and had added 5 new members through the group, one of whom will be installed as Noble Grand on February 7th; the other recruits are serving as appointed officers, serving on committees, and contributing to the life of the lodge.

On that trip, Jessica and Michael decided to see if the membership of the lodge were interested in building on that model -- providing free space to values-aligned, no-budget community groups and recruiting engaged members from them. The lodge was open to the idea, as long as there was a member present for all meetings and the lodge voted on who could use the space.

Since then, the lodge has started hosting a queer/trans inclusive DND boardgaming group called the Oddizens on 2nd and 4th Sundays. Sally, the Oddizen's leader, is hoping to be initiated into OddFellowship in April and will be interviewing in a few weeks. The lodge has also twice hosted a Muslim immigrant women's dinner group, whose singing, dancing, kunafa and hibiscus tea fill the lodge with life, light and joy. The lodge is looking forward to continuing to host this group that gives a safe, welcoming space to women who often feel unwelcome in 2019. The lodge has also continued sharing our kitchen with children and teens in foster care, through the Child Advocates of Silicon Valley CASA mentorship program. Each of these groups has been so grateful to use the space and to learn more about Odd Fellowship in Silicon Valley.

If your lodge is interested in using this approach to grow membership, here is a bit more information about how we went about it. After their conversation, Jessica reached out through MeetUp to a number of South Bay groups that fit 3 criteria:

1) They aligned with IOOF values. Why? Because the lodge is an IOOF space and activities taking place in it, particularly for free, should conform with our values.

2) They are a healthy, positive community that care for and support each other. Why? This increases the likelihood they will care for the space and will be good members if they choose to join. People tend to join groups their friends are in, so if we recruit a few members from an existing group, the likelihood we can recruit more from the group should increase.

3) They are too big to meet in a private home but are not able to pay the \$100+ an hour the local community center requires for their rooms. Why? Groups of this size fill-in the cracks in our communities. If a group is small enough to meet in a private home, they don't really need to use our 600 sq ft downtown space. If they are big enough to be able to pay \$100 an hour for their meetings, they can use any of the many parish halls, back rooms, and community center conference rooms available for that high price in Silicon Valley. But mid-sized groups, like small businesses and fraternal societies, are where people come to find friends, support through life's changes, and inspiration to do good work in their lives and their neighborhoods. But as more and more spaces have become commercially-focused in Silicon Valley, these small groups are getting edged out. For example, the Odd Writer's League met for years at Book Buyers on Castro St; but when Book Buyers had to move to Gilroy because they could no longer afford rent, the Odd Writer's League was left homeless, trying to squeeze their weekly 3 hour meetings into the 30-minute limit meeting room at the library. Lodge #244 provided them a home and since then, members have had poetry, short stories, essays and novels published; hosted haunted houses and book signings; and can be found 6:30-9:30pm every Wednesday learning, laughing, critiquing, and growing as a community. See the photos of Odd Writing League member L. Julia's debut novel's release party in the lodge:



We're at the beginning of this experiment and have high hopes it will prove successful in furthering our values, supporting our community, and growing our lodge.

Thank you!
Jessica

Silicon Valley Odd Fellowship

Initiation Degrees Scheduled

Cupertino Lodge 70 has scheduled the degree of Initiation at their regular meeting on February 25. This was because we have two candidates who have been waiting since early November. There are also candidates from Saratoga and True Fellowship. There will be a practice on Sunday, February 24 at 3pm. If you already have a part, please come to make the practice go more smoothly. If you are interested in taking part, please come! We always need more people involved! The regular 5th Monday Installation on April 29 will also take place.



Surprise at AMOS Meeting

At the last AMOS meeting at the Cupertino Lodge on January 20, we were all surprised when **Michael Greenzeiger** showed up with his new baby daughter, **Angelina**. Michael and **Linnea** are proud parents. Michael was the secretary and had trouble typing because he was only able to use one hand as can be seen by the picture. Angelina was very good and enjoyed her bottle that Michael gave to her. Michael said that he will be bringing her to lodge from time to time, depending on their schedule. Many of the elder Odd Fellows and Rebekahs can remember many hours being spent in the anti room of an Odd Fellow hall, during their parent's meetings.

The next AMOS meeting will be March 20th at 2:00 PM at the Cupertino Hall.

Pancake Breakfast March 16

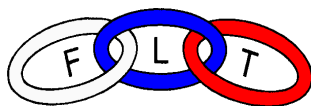
Cupertino 70 will hold their 12th annual Pancake breakfast at the lodge on March 16, a day before St. Patrick's Day. It is held in honor of brother **Herman DeVille** who passed away years ago from his battle with cancer. Since then, all the money donated to the pancake breakfast goes to a Cancer charity. It will be from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, orange juice and coffee with real cream will be served. This year we will also hold a 50/50 raffle. Please come, bring friends and support this worthy event. We would like to top last year's \$1,000 donation to the City of Hope, cancer research.

4 way Joint Installation

On January 28, Cupertino Lodge 70 hosted a 4 Lodge joint Installation. We had around 40 members show up from the different lodges. Cupertino 70 was joined with Saratoga 428 and Bay View 109 Odd Fellow Lodges and Philotesian, Rebekah lodge 145. **District Deputy Grand Master Bill Boiko** was the installer with his **District Deputy Marshal Raymond Fellers**. This was their first time for both brothers. For the Rebekahs, **District Deputy President Debra LaVergne** and her **District Deputy Marshall Pat Aanenson** did the honors. Both of them were pros. Cupertino brother **Ted Wong** cooked up a great delicious meal which was ready right after the Installation. It consisted of Marsala Chicken, Spaghetti, Broccoli and Carrots, Caesar Salad, Garlic Bread, Strawberry and Vanilla Panna Cotta. The other lodges chipped in and brought other desserts, wine and snacks. It was a very enjoyable event. New friends were made between the lodges.



Top Left to Right: **DD President Debra LaVergne**, **DD Grand Master Bill Boiko**, incoming Noble Grand **Connie Hall** from Saratoga 428, **Izzy Mahon**, from Bay View 109, **Annie Cronin**, from Cupertino 70 and sitting on the right **Mary Lou Lang**, from Philotesian.145. Standing with his back showing, **Ron Myres** and sitting **Laurie Prescott** both incoming wardens.



Bay View Lodge No 109 in Redwood City, Welcomes New Members, while temporarily impacted by neighboring construction



Left to right, Trustees **Raymond Fellers**, **Gerald Williams**, and **Isidore Mahon** welcome siblings **Robert** and **Christy Jones** as new members into the Lodge.

Philotesian Dues Reminder

SGL has passed a dues increase of \$5 per member. Please add \$5 to your next payment of dues for a total payment of \$60 for the next year's dues. Please send your check to Philotesian Rebekah Lodge at PO Box 76, Cupertino CA 95015-0076.



Bay View Lodge No 109, I.O.O.F. was founded in Redwood City in 1862. In 1895 construction was completed for the new Lodge building 839 Main Street. While the Lodge has had several upgrades since then, it is still the location and historical landmark where Bay View Lodge members meet regularly. However, for the next 1-2 years, there is a slight disruption but which will be positive ultimately. The four buildings next-door to the Lodge on Main Street, each which was in need of modernizing, were purchased by a single developer who demolished those older buildings and is constructing a single new development in their place. Right next door to our Lodge will be a beautiful mixed-use building, two to four stories high, primarily office space but also retail on the ground floor, and parking below. The development received enthusiastic support from the community, as it will help revitalize the historic Main Street area of downtown Redwood City. Due to the immense nature of the project, and proximity to Bay View Lodge, precautions had to be taken which will result in additional and new foundation beneath our Lodge. Furthermore, Bay View Lodge agreed to allow the builders to use the Lodge's parking lot during this 1-2 year period and, in exchange, the Lodge will receive some much needed upgrades. The one downside for Bay View Lodge members, however, is that for the next 1-2 years it's more difficult to meet at the Lodge. Therefore meetings are being held at a local American Legion as well as at local restaurants. When the construction project is finished, not only will Bay View Lodge No 109 have received new foundation work and some nice upgrades, but it will be next door to a beautiful new development that will help Main Street Redwood City and our Lodge shine for many years to come.

By *Steven Koury, secretary*

Waipuna Live in Cupertino

Odd Fellows Cupertino 70 is partnering with Patrick Landeza's House of Hawaiian Music to bring the best of Hawaiian music to Cupertino. Multi-award winning performers **Waipuna**, **Weldon Kekauoha** and **Bobby Moderow** are some of the finest Hawaiian musicians today. Come and join us for an authentic Hawaiian Plate Dinner and top notch music and entertainment.

February 16th, Waipuna, Doors Open at 6pm for Dinner. Show at 7pm. Show tickets available at <https://tinyurl.com/houseofhawaiianmusic> \$10 Dinner tickets and beverages available at the show. Free parking.

April 27th, **Weldon Kekauoha**. Doors Open at 6pm for Dinner. Show at 7pm. Show tickets available soon at <https://tinyurl.com/houseofhawaiianmusic> \$10 Dinner tickets and beverages available at the show. Free parking.

May 18th, **Bobby Moderow**. Doors Open at 6pm for Dinner. Show at 7pm. Show tickets available soon at <https://tinyurl.com/houseofhawaiianmusic> \$10 Dinner tickets and beverages available at the show. Free parking.

By *Jim Kabage*



District Meeting

The annual District Meeting for District #3 will be on Wednesday, February 20 at Philotesian Rebekah Lodge. There will be a potluck dinner around a turkey at 6:00pm, followed by the 7:30pm meeting.

We already have pin-ons that Freja #284 inherited from Olive Branch #48 (I believe they were made for Bay Area Day when **Betty Hannaford** was President). We have paper products. We have corsages. DDP **Debra LaVergne** has mailed invitations. Philotesian as Hostess Lodge is responsible for housing the President.

Omelet / Crapes Breakfast

Clara Rebekah Lodge will hold their annual Omelet / Crapes Breakfast on Saturday February 2, 2019 at their 1035 Emory St location., from 8:00 AM until 11:30 AM. They will also be selling **Debbie's** famous jelly and jam. If you never attended their breakfast, you should try it, you're like it.

Encampment, Canton & Auxiliaries Installation

Barnes Encampment #77, Hope LEA #60, Canton Santa Clara #6 and LAPM Santa Clara #6 will install officers on Sunday, February 24 at the Santa Clara Odd Fellows Hall, 1035 Emory Street.

Clara Rebekah Lodge will provide a crepe breakfast from 9am to 10am for the usual charge. Canton and LAPM installation will be at 11am. Encampment and LEA installation will be at noon.

Remaining Installations

There will be the following Installations::

Saturday, Feb 9, a Joint True Fellowship #52 & Clara #34, at 2 PM, at 1035 Emory St

Monday, Feb 4 - Joint Volcano #25& Freja #284 & Stella #22, 7:30PM at Friendship Hall at the Saratoga Home

Thursday, Feb 7 - Joint Mountain View #244 & Hermania #49, 6 PM at the Mountain View Lodge at 823 Villa St, in Mountain View

Hamburger Fry Dates in 2019

Sigma Tau Theta Rho girls (and hopefully, a new Junior Lodge) are looking forward to serving you at the Santa Clara Odd Fellows Temple, 1035 Emory St, San Jose.

Doors open at 5:45 pm. Serving from 6:00pm - 7:00pm.

\$2.75 - Hamburger with all the trimmings

\$3.00 - Cheeseburger with all the trimmings

Chips, Coffee, Soda, and Dessert Available

Hamburger Frys are sponsored by True Fellowship Odd Fellows #52 and benefit Sigma Tau Theta Rho Girls Club #92 and the potential new Junior Odd Fellows Lodge.

Wednesday, March 27

Wednesday, May 29

In April, Ben Shuler will be unavailable to cook, so instead of a Hamburger Fry, Sigma Tau will have a spaghetti or macaroni and cheese dinner on Wednesday, April 24 at 6:00pm.

Since the girls are planning to do another set of gift bags for homeless people, they would appreciate donations of travel size toiletries (such as from hotels) and dentist toothpaste and toothbrush kits. They will have a box to receive these at Hamburger Frys during the year.

By *Debra LaVergne*